

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SCCT-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

DODE-00 EB-07 OES-03 SAB-01 /072 W

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P 111744Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5053

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 29734

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EC, XF, UN

SUBJECT: EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE--PLO PARTICIPATION

REF: (A) ROME 16918 (B) PARIS 27602

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1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM A RELIABLE BRITISH EMBASSY SOURCE (WHO SHOULD UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE CITED AS HAVING GIVEN US THIS REPORT) THAT IN THE CONTEXT OF EC-NINE SUMMIT DISCUSSIONS OF ENERGY ON DECEMBER 10, THE QUESTION OF EC RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS WAS RAISED AND THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AND THE PLO WERE MENTIONED. THESE MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED ONLY BRIEFLY, BUT THE GERMAN, DUTCH AND BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS REPORTEDLY HIT HARD AT THE FRENCH FOR THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PLO. DEN UYL AND WILSON FORCEFULLY BACKED SCHMIDT'S CONTENTION THAT THE FRENCH HAVE GONE TOO FAR AND TOO FAST WITH THE PLO.

2. THE FRENCH REPORTEDLY DEFENDED THEIR POSITION AND MAY HAVE ADVANCED THE ARGUMENTS WHICH THEY ARE SAID TO HAVE USED IN OTHER EC MEETINGS, NAMELY, THAT THE U.S. ITSELF, AS EVIDENCED BY PRESIDENT FORD'S MENTION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLO, BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER'S RECENT COMMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND BY UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S ALLEGED CONVERSATIONS, IS MOVING TOWARDS RECOGNITION OF THE PLO; CONSEQUENTLY, THE EC SHOULD NOT BE LEFT BEHIND.

3. OUR BRITISH SOURCE OFFERED THE VIEW THAT NEITHER THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS WHO MEET ON DECEMBER 12 NOR THE EC DIALOGUE COORDINATING GROUP SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 17 WILL BREAK THE PRESENT DEAD-LOCK BETWEEN FRANCE, ITALY, IRELAND AND BELGIUM ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE NETHERLANDS, GERMANY, THE UK AND DENMARK, ON THE OTHER, OVER PLO PARTICIPATION IN THE DIALOGUE.

4. EARLIER (ON DECEMBER 9), QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE LEVANT ROUILLON CONFIRMED TO US REF B DESCRIPTION OF THE NEAR TOTAL IMPASSE WHICH ENDED LAST WEEK'S MEETING OF THE EC REPRESENTATIVES WHO COORDINATE THE DIALOGUE. HE SAID THAT THE WORST ASPECT OF THE SITUATION IS THE "EXTREME ARAB DISAPPOINTMENT" THAT THE EUROPEANS SEEM OPPOSED EVEN TO DISCUSSING WITH THEM THE POSSIBILITY OF PLO PARTICIPATION IN THE DIALOGUE.

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ROUILLON INDICATED THAT THE EUROPEANS AGREED ONLY THAT THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT A PLO OBSERVER FOR THE DIALOGUE AT SUCH TIME AS THE MEPC AT GENEVA RECONVENES WITH PLO PARTICIPATION. ROUILLON TAKES LITTLE COMFORT FROM THIS, HOWEVER, SINCE HE DOUBTS THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL MEET BEFORE LATE 1975 ("MID-1975 AT THE EARLIEST", HE SAID).

5. COMMENT: THE FRENCH CAN BE EXPECTED TO PRESS THEIR  
POSITION DURING THE DECEMBER 12 AND 17 EC MEETINGS.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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